--- C-371 - 20 Cigarettes - “Rothman Tobacco”, Toronto - [12-50E] - 1957-60 ---

In 1956 “Rothman Tobacco” came to Canada from England, and opened a modern factory at Toronto in 1957. Towards the end of the same year in the United Kingdom the “Rothman Group” acquired voting control of “Carreras Limited” which held majority voting shares of “Rock City Tobacco”, Quebec City. The Rothman readable date coding begins with a three digit weekly cancellation in December 1957.

In the Rothman *weekly* three digit code the *first two numbers* give ***the week*** of the year, and *the last digit* provides ***the year***. In 1968-69 the numbers were in heavy 4½ mm. Gothic without the company code, but early in 1960 a 2 mm. company code [12-50E] was added at the top and the number was printed in thin 4 mm. Gothic figures.

--- the cancellation reads horizontally upright - 7 copies to date ---

★**RC-386** - 20 cigarettes, imperf, coded **517** by “Rothman Tobacco” in the 51st week of 1957

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1957	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**517**
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
			---		---			---			---	
1958	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	**248**	**288**	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**518**
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
			---		---			---			---	
1959	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**449**	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**469**	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
			---		---			---			**489**	

In the Rothman *weekly* three digit code the *first two numbers* give ***the week*** of the year, and *the last digit* provides ***the year***. In 1968-69 the numbers were in heavy 4½ mm. Gothic without the company code but early in 1960 a 2 mm. company code [12-50E] was added at the top and the number was printed in thin 4 mm. Gothic figures.

★**RC-386** - 20 cigarettes, imperf, coded **12-50E / 060** by "Rothman Tobacco" in the 6th week of 1960

--- the cancellation reads horizontally upright - a single copy to date ---

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1960	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	**060**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
			---		---			---			---	

	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1961	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
			---		---			---			---	

To date I have not located any 1961 examples cancelled in the above format with red ink, and none in black ink after **381** for the 38th week of 1961. The sequence possibly runs to December 1961 at **521**, although a new Budget may have changed the coding in mid-stream. I have begun the following *monthly* series as if started at **11** in January 1962.

--- 20 Cigarettes - “Rothman of Pall Mall”, Toronto - [12-50E] - 1962-63 ---

The first series listed for “Rothman / Rock City” [**6-13D**] using a ***single*** two digit date code, has not been found to date on “Rothman of Pall Mall” production.

--- with twin 4 mm. Gothic codes, and with a small centred 2 mm. Gothic [12-50E] - 4 copies to date ---

★**RC-386** - coded 12-50E / **78** in August 1967

★**RC-386** - coded 12-50E / **23** in January 1963

[★RC-386]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1962	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1963	**23**	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1964	---	---	---	---	---	---	**41**	---	---	---	---	---
1965	---	---	---	---	---	**52**	---	---	---	---	---	---
1966	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1967	---	---	---	---	---	---	**77**	**78**	---	---	---	---
1968	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1969	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

The above illustrated copies have me stumped. The cancellation appears to be from *Rothman of Pall Mall*, *Toronto* or *Rothman / Rock City, Quebec, P.Q.* Their heavy Gothic dating ends in early 1960 (see the Toronto codes). They are the only cigarette cancellations which I have encountered that use this heavy four digit coding - I would say they read as from the **274**th day of 1965, and from the **294**th day of 1969.

Why have I found no other examples? Who has more? - very interesting - maximum mystery!

--- 20 Cigarettes - “Rothman of Pall Mall”, Toronto [12-50E] - 1969-74 --

In 1969, initially using the imperforate twenty cigarettes Series “C” stamp, “Rothman of Pall Mall” began a new coding system using the doubled 5 mm. date format and central 3 mm. company code [12-50E]. The dating is based on the twelve letter monthly code-word **AMBIDEXTROUS**. In November 1969 the system using 4 mm. date coding continues onto the “Wings” Series - with the centred but reversed 2 mm. company code [50E-12] not beginning until 1973.

★**RC-386** - 20 cigarettes, imperf, coded **12-50E / T** - from August 1969

[★RC-386]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1969	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	**T**	---	---	---	---

★**RC-815** - 20 cigarettes, imperf, coded **12-50E / E 3** - from March 1973

--- with twin 4 mm. Gothic codes, and with a small centred 2 mm. Gothic [50E-12] - 3 copies to date ---

[★RC-815]	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	June	July	Aug.	Sep.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
1969	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1970	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1971	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1972	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---
1973	---	---	---	---	---	**E3**	---	---	---	**O3**	**U3**	---
1974	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---	---

File path is [c:\ MS - STAMPS \ RC_STAMPS \ 1935 - Series C \ 20 cigarettes \ 12-50E - red],
In MS Word 2007 for Windows 7,
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December 24th 2013, JBH